

# **1989 Peace Essay Contest**

1. Oliver North is on trial for sending money and arms to the contras in Nicaragua, even though Congress had said that was illegal. North argued that what he did was right because it was for "national security". Do you believe "national security" is a reason not to obey the country's laws?
2. Albert Einstein, the great scientist, once said, "You cannot prepare for war and try for peace at the same time." Why?
3. If the government goes ahead with the Star Wars Defense Initiative, it will move weapons into outer space. Do you believe it is important to keep outer space "weapon free"?
4. Our government should be spending less money for weapons, and more money to help meet peoples needs, for example, jobs, housing, food, education, and medical care. Do you agree and why?
5. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "We must evolve for ALL HUMAN CONFLICT a method which rejects revenge, aggression and retaliation." In your own words, what does this mean, and what other ways are there to solve conflicts?
6. The Central American countries have held several meetings and developed their own peace plan for their region. The United States has not supported that plan. What do you think the role of the United States in Central America should be?
7. Recently, President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev met and agreed to reduce some types of weapons. Are the superpowers, United States and the Soviet Union, doing enough to make this a peaceful world?

*Essays should be brought or mailed to:*

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